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"Art was an element in the winning of the war. It helped to keep up the morale of the soldier in action and helped to restore him to health in the hospitals. It will infuse new hope and ambition into his life and will make him a happier and a more useful citizen.

"Another great asset to these war-weary, homesick men will be the home touch made possible by the grouping of the soldier-students into numerous small units.

"Mr. H. K. Bush-Brown, the noted sculptor, who is educational director of the Soldiers' Institute, has aptly put the idea in an inscription on a recent bas-relief:

"Work is the salvation of man;
The joy of work is production;
The flower of production is art;
The production of art leads to religion.
If we are to succeed as a nation, we
must make a religion of our liberty."

Whether or not the Soldiers' Institute is to succeed we cannot tell. It ought to succeed. In addition to the services we have mentioned, there remains the job of furnishing and securing work for as many of these men as possible. We are told that over half a million of them are out of employment. This ought not to be. Every man out of work is an economic drag to the community. The major remedy is education. The basic reconstruction for the next generation will be expressed in terms of education. If many of these men are not to remain helpless burdens on the community, they must be educated. Society's duty to these men and to itself is to furnish this education.

THE MYSTERY WAR IN CHINA

AN INSCRUTABLE war within the heart of an inscrutable China has possibly come to an inscrutable end. Chang Tsao-lin, until a few days ago was an officer of the central government at Peking and Inspector General of Manchuria, with alleged leanings toward sinister Japanese influences. General Wu Pei-fu is a scholarly inhabitant of central China, with no suspicions attached to him of Nipponese taint. Farther south is Sun Yat-sen, head of the Canton Government and of the southern armies, and another conspicuous military leader, Tsau Kun. Both Chang and Wu claimed to be fighting for the unification of China; but Wu did not approve Chang's gift of three million dollars to Dr. Sun's Canton expedition. They have had a series of battles strictly according to Marquis of Queensbury rules. General Wu has been given the decision, and Chang is headed in the direction of Manchuria with his son, who is reported to be seriously wounded.

The mystery of it all is as deep as the mystery of the Chinese character. We are told that there can be no such things as laws of war. This does not seem to be true of the Chinese. They have laws of war and believe

in obeying them. One of their laws is that in case of war the armies shall not destroy the railroads. That law seems to have been obeyed except, possibly, by the retreating army. Another law is that a retreating army shall not be chased into a town. That law has been obeyed. It is a law that armies shooting at each other shall avoid hitting sight-seers on the side lines. Even that law has been observed.

The war is over, perhaps. The President of the republic continues to hold his job. The defeated Chang, decreed out of his office as Inspector General of Manchuria, may receive it back. He may skip the country. Wu says that the troops of the militarists must be disbanded, and that the unification of China is the next thing. This must mean the end of the Canton Government and the calling of some sort of a constitutional convention in behalf of a "representative and democratic" government. What the Chinese people, who "are not trusted," will have to say is another one of the mysteries. General Wu may know the meaning of the words "constitutional convention," but they are meaningless for the most part to the people of China. If Wu succeeds in bringing the northern and southern factions together by the means of a constitutional convention or otherwise, a foot-loose Chang in Manchuria may make it difficult to bring that section into the union. Wu realizes this and is trying to pacify Manchuria and to ward off the Japanese.

Not the least of all the mysteries is that Wu and Chang should be able to organize armies, array them against each other, and wage battle, both leaders proclaiming as their goal a united and a constitutionalized China. We are told that Chang had hoped to have the co-operation of Wu and Tsau Kun in his ambition to conquer the South. Adding to the complexity of this was the announcement that Sun Yat-sen, leader of the South, was Chang's ally against Wu and Tsao. In this particular war, therefore, Chang, at the North, was counting on Sun, at the South, in his campaign against Wu. Sun's forces, however, did not appear; hence Chang's defeat. Already Wu says he aims to straighten out the situation in Shantung, to develop flood prevention along the Yellow and Huai rivers, and to extend railway construction with the aid of foreign money and supervision under Chinese audit. Hanging over it all is the possibility that the genial and scholarly general will yet have to fight Chang on the north, Sun on the south, and perhaps both.

In the meantime China lives on, apparently undisturbed. The great mass of the Chinese millions take as little interest, evidently, in these little personal outbreaks as a pachyderm expresses when touched by a fly.